The Tripartite Committee reviewed the implementation of the Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966. The Committee recommended that (i) the State Governments may be requested to translate rules under the Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 in local language; (ii) the State Governments should extend the application of Payment of Wages Act, 1936 to beedi workers; and (iii) the State Governments should be requested to be firm in implementation of the Act. It was also suggested that the Welfare Commissioners should launch a drive for the issue of identity cards to beedi workers.

(b) The scheme for assistance to group housing societies is under finalisation. Welfare Commissioners have issued a large number of identity cards to beedi workers. Housing schemes for beedi workers have been taken up and more scholarships have been awarded in 1985-86 as compared to the previous years. Most of the welfare schemes approved by the Advisory Committee have been finalised and suitable orders have been issued by the Labour Ministry.

The State Governments have been requested to take suitable action on the basis of the recommendations of the Tripartite Committee.

Beedi workers' Unions

2036. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of registered trade unions of beedi workers in Allahabad region;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is proliferation of beedi workers' unions in the country and that a number of such unions are not of representative character;

(c) whether these unions are complying with the relevant rules and regulations; and

(d) if not, what steps Government propose to take to check proliferation of trade unions in beedi industry in the country so as to make them truely representative of beedi workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) Information on the trade unions operating in the Beedi Industry which falls within the purview of the State Government, the appropriate authority under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and Trade Unions Act, 1926 is not maintained.

Location of LIC Headquarters at Hyderabad

2037. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had written to him on the 10th September, 1986 for locating the headquarters of the New South Central Zonal Office of the Life Insurance Corporation at Hyderabad;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the physical infrastructure for the office is readily available; and

(c) if so, what action the Central Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A letter dated 10th September, 1986, was received from the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh regarding a proposal of the Life Insurance Corporation of India to open a new South-Central Zonal Office. The matter has been reviewed by LIC who have decided, keeping in view considerations of profitability and the need to give a better return to the policyholders, not to open the South-Central Zone for the time being. A reply has been sent to the Chief